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R. SINGLETON PEABODY, Esq.

ROBERT S. PEABODY FOUNDATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT

1943

PHILLIPS ACADEMY

Andover, Massachusetts

January 1, 1944

Dr. Claude M. Fuess
Clerk of the Board of Trustees
Phillips Academy
Andover, Mass.

Dear Dr. Fuess:

Throughout the past year the Robert S. Peabody Foundation has pursued as actively as conditions would permit the various fields of endeavor to which its activities have been dedicated. No new projects were initiated, nor was any extensive field work carried on.

In the field, the only activity was in Ballardvale. A number of years ago it became evident that a local collector, Mr. Arthur Hofmann, had stumbled onto a site which contained some valuable information. Mr. Bullen worked with Mr. Hofmann on this site, and has secured data which would otherwise have been lost. The report of this work has been prepared for publication in AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, the national archaeological journal. At the site there were a number of ditches which had been visited by Mr. Moorehead. He interpreted these as Indian forts, naming them "Fort Benner", "Fort Graham", and "Fort Goldsmith". Further research by Mr. Pullen has brought forth the suggestion that these are probably the remains of fences of the type known as ha-ha's, in which there is a ditch with one perpendicular face at the top of which there may be a rail

fence. His conclusions were published under the title, "Forts Boundaries or Ha-Ha's," in the BULLETIN OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

During the summer Mr. Bullen excavated the site of what proved to be an early 19th century house. Much valuable information was secured concerning the occurrence of types of ceramics which may be of assistance in dating sites occupied by Indians. In this work, he was assisted by two students.

Mr. Johnson, with Dr. Raup and Dr. Bryan did some work during the spring on Indian sites which are now below sea level. Summer work was discontinued because Dr. Raup was called away. This project is a direct outgrowth of the Fishweir studies discussed in previous reports and was outlined in the annual report for January, 1943. Permission to go on the salt marshes now under investigation has been received from the Coast Guard, and this highly important work is now under way again.

As forecast in the last annual report, Mr. Johnson's paper entitled "Micmac Shamanism" was published in the June number of PRIMITIVE MAN. The paper deals with the survivals of aboriginal religious and magical practices to be found among the Indians of Cape Preton Island.

Mr. Johnson has completed his manuscript on the Indians of Central America for the Handbook of the Indians of South America to be published by the Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution. The manuscript is now in the hands of the editor, at the Smithsonian Institution, in Washington.

It has been one of the cardinal principles that the staff and the Foundation should do all in their power to further the causes to which it is dedicated, by whatever means seem best. Participation in the Government handbook by Mr. Johnson is one way in which such aid can be given, another major field is in the active direction of the scientific societies and other organizations which help to guide research and policies.

To this end Mr. Johnson accepted the Treasurership of the Society for American Archaeology in May, 1942. He was appointed by the President, following the entry of the Treasurer into the armed forces. In July, 1943, he was elected to a four-year term as Treasurer. It seems fair to report in passing that his service has been a most valuable contribution, since he has set the books of the Society in order and established it on a solvent footing.

Mr. Byers was re-elected to the position of Editor of the Society. His editorship of AMERICAN ANTIQUITY

brings him and your Foundation into close touch with archaeologists throughout the Americas. Together, he and Mr. Johnson are in a position to guide the policies of the Society.

The Massachusetts Archaeological Society was formed under the guidance of your Foundation, which continues to have a very strong voice in its affairs. Mr. Eyers continues as Editor of its publications, while Mr. Johnson is a member of the Board of Trustees. The interchange of information among members of this Society and your Foundation continues on the friendliest basis, and has been the cause of preserving much valuable data. Mr. Bullen is very active among the members of the Society resident in this vicinity. Every effort is bent toward the goal of preserving and recording all the information in the hands of the members, many of whom are active in fields of historical and geographical research. In passing, it should be noted that this encouragement by your Foundation was largely responsible for the completion by Dr. Henry F. Howe (P.A.'22) of PROLOGUE TO NEW ENGLAND, the publication of which was greatly aided by the interest of Dr. Fuess and Mr. Gould.

In the museum, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bullen have been re-working the exhibitions of material from New England, particularly those from the vicinity of Andover.

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This work has resulted in the development of a style of exhibition which will enable the museum visitor to interpret the displays of specimens in terms of aboriginal industry and history. The principles of this style are being applied to the local material. When materials are available again after the war, changes and improvements in the exhibition halls will result from this work.

In the museum library there has been need for a reorganization of the large file of reprints and separates, some of which are extremely valuable. Miss Willett and Mr. Johnson undertook this task during the summer, and, in addition, laid out a program for binding paper-backed volumes, museum publications, and periodicals of which completed volumes were on hand. Permission to take \$200 from the Field Work account and credit it to the Binding account was given by the Trustees in October. This enabled the completion of the binding program. It is a pleasure to record the fact that the library is now a well-organized research unit, and that limitation of the binding program to current items now seems in order.

Mr. Johnson has had a number of engagements. In February he prepared an exhibition of material secured from the Boylston Street Fishweir for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Boston. The Academy was actively

interested in the work and underwrote part of the expenses of research and publication. Mr. Johnson was present at the meeting of the Academy to discuss the significance of the material. In March he delivered a lecture on Indian Textiles before the November Club in Andover. In April he delivered a paper on Shell Heaps and Coastal Stability, outlining a problem based on a re-interpretation of previous museum work. In April a paper by him, dealing with the Fishweir study, was published by the Bostonian Society.

Mr. Byers has continued as the Chairman of Civilian Defense in Andover. Following the crash of a plane in Andover on March 9, 1943, and the ensuing all-night search for the missing pilot, Mr. Byers and Mr. James worked out a plan of operations for such incidents which was the basis for Standard Operations Procedure #1, now in force throughout the area of the Eastern Defense Command.

Mr. Bullen has been actively interested in contacts with the schools in Andover, and has acted as docent during visits by students of Abbot Academy and the Andover Public Schools. He has spoken at Abbot on two occasions.

Because of reduced activity in the field there was only one accession to the catalogue; this included

thirty-four specimens.

The library was increased by one hundred sixteen new titles over and above the fifty-eight exchanges and periodicals received each year. A complete set of the publications of the Foundation was sent to the Joint University Libraries in Knoxville, Tennessee, which is maintained by Vanderbilt, Peabody, and Scaritt colleges. A complete set was also sent to the University of Cuzco, Cuzco, Peru, to aid in creating an anthropological library for the newly established Department of Anthropology of that university. In each case an exchange agreement was entered into by the Foundation and the benefitting institution.

Because of the great reduction in the activities of your Foundation, it has been possible to write off in large part the amount advanced for the remodeling of the building. In the year 1942-43 expenses of the Foundation were reduced far below expectations, leaving a surplus of \$3,915.69, which was applied toward repayment of the capital advanced. This figure stood at \$6,701.74 as of July 1, 1942. The budget allowed for a reduction of this debt at the rate of \$1000 per year. Application of the surplus to this balance has reduced it to \$1,786.05. It should therefore be completely eliminated by the end of the year, and a surplus

established on the books. It is particularly gratifying to contemplate the repayment of the original capital advance of approximately \$19,000 and the additional advance of \$1,000 for Mr. Moorehead's portrait in a span of seven years rather than the nineteen originally contemplated.

Respectfully submitted

Douglas S. Byars
Director

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